

N E W Y O R K archives

Educator Guide Fall 2019



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Students and the War Effort

The role of children in society can be easily seen at the social and economic level, but we often have to look a little closer to understand how they impact the political world, both nationally and globally. Ken Bartowski's article, *A Model Aircraft Armada*, explores the program developed during World War II that employed the skills of students in high school carpentry classes to build models for training military personnel in identifying aircraft.

Compelling Question What role do children play in national and global events?

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

 create meaningful and persuasive understandings of the past by fusing disparate and relevant evidence from primary and secondary sources and drawing connections to the present

This guide includes supporting questions to aid students in the reading of the article and analysis questions for understanding the primary sources. All educational materials are aligned to the New York State Social Studies Framework. The learning objectives are taken directly from the Social Studies Practices and the content fits within the framework.

Link to the full article:

https://www.nysarchivestrust.org/application/ files/2015/6891/1735/archivesmag_fall2019.pdf

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A Model Aircraft Armada

By Ken Bartowski



SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM (NASM 00186681)



MODEL BUILDING BUILDS MODEL MEN

Setting the Stage

Show this video from pbslearningmedia.org to introduce students to the variety of planes used in World War II and the continued interest in them today.

https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/6d6d0cad-b923-4a8c-b6d4-95c7b05cd2ba/the-airplane-graveyard/



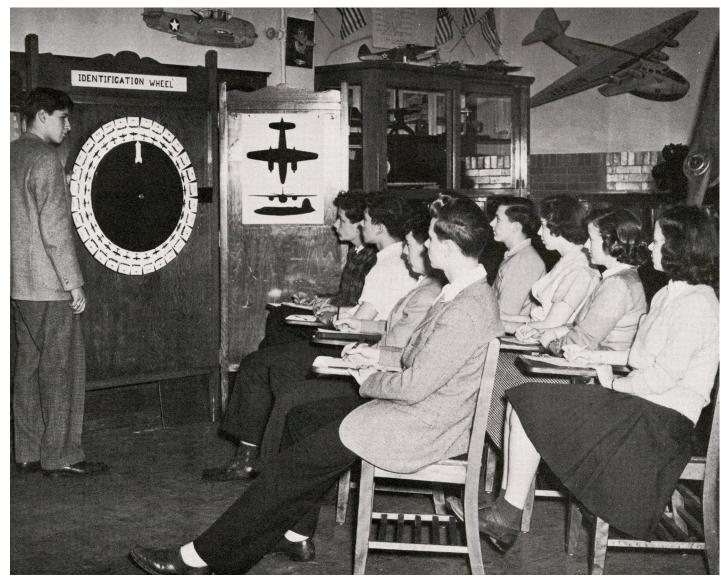
PHOTO BY MARK AVINO SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM (NASM2011-02368)

Guided Reading Questions

- 1. What was the purpose of the model planes requested by the government?
- 2. How did the government use the models to achieve their purpose?
- 3. Who was chosen to make the model planes?
- 4. How many model planes did New York's Navy Department request the first year?
- 5. What problems did the state face in trying to meet their model plan quota?
- 6. What did the New York State Education Department do to help solve the problem?
- 7. What devices were used to increase accuracy?



Document Analysis



Courtesy: New York State Archives

Analysis Questions

- 1. List all the objects you see in this photograph?
- 2. Based on your list of objects what do you think this room is used for?
- 3. What are the seated individuals doing in this photograph?
- 4. What is the individual standing in the front doing?

